

**MODEST INCOME FOR VOLUNTEER
WORK IN ELDER SERVICES
CORPS IN MASSACHUSETTS
SHOULD NOT BE TAXED**

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce legislation today with my colleagues Representatives CAPUANO, DELAHUNT and MARKEY, to allow an exclusion from gross income of stipends received by persons over the age of 60 for volunteer services performed under a qualified State program.

The Elder Services Corps in the State of Massachusetts was created in 1973. It is composed of individuals at least 60 years of age and allows volunteers to assist in meeting the needs of the elderly population of the Commonwealth. Individuals enroll for 1 year at a time, and are required to volunteer 18 hours per week or 72 hours per month, and receive a stipend of \$130 a month. The program is 100 percent State funded.

Mr. Speaker, I see no reason why the modest income received for this volunteer service should be subject to tax, especially employment taxes. I hope Congress will act on this legislation this year, and provide an additional incentive for an expansion of this program in Massachusetts, and its adoption by other States.

**H.R. 1350: IMPROVING EDUCATION
RESULTS FOR CHILDREN WITH
DISABILITIES ACT OF 2003**

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, in America, all students, including those with disabilities, have the right to a free and appropriate education. Despite this fundamental right, the special educational needs of children with disabilities have sometimes gone unmet. That is why in 1975, Congress set out to correct this wrong with a law now called the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). IDEA provides federal funding to help states and school districts meet their legal obligations to educate children with disabilities, and to pay 40 percent of the extra expenses of doing so. Currently, such federal aid only provides 18 percent of the extra costs of educating students with disabilities.

I strongly believe that individuals with disabilities have the right to participate in and contribute to society. Improving the educational opportunities and results for children with disabilities is an important step towards ensuring not only their full participation in society, but equality for all. However H.R. 1350, the Republican proposal to reauthorize IDEA, jeopardizes the quality of education provided to children with disabilities and weakens their civil and due process rights under current law. Furthermore, it does not guarantee any new funds for IDEA, it punishes children for actions they have no control over, and limits parental advocacy at due process hearings regarding

their child's education. Because this bill does not offer enough help to the schools in my community of the San Gabriel Valley and East Los Angeles, I strongly oppose it. This bill simply turns back the clock of progress we have made in this area.

**TRIBUTE TO MAGGIE LITTLE, CO-
RONA-NORCO UNIFIED SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Corona, CA are exceptional. Corona has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Maggie Little is one of these individuals. On June 6, 2003 Maggie will be honored as she retires after 36 years of dedicated service to the students, employees, parents, community and business members of the Corona-Norco Unified School District.

Maggie has served in several capacities throughout her 36 year career with the Corona-Norco Unified School District including teacher, principal and administrator. She has always observed an "open-door" policy and provided guidance to those who looked for her help. She had extended her hand and expertise to support any child, teacher or employee and served as a role model and mentor to administrators, teachers and students. Throughout her career she has consistently displayed patience, dependability and integrity.

Maggie's position as Corona-Norco Unified School District media spokesperson, the public relations liaison to community service organizations, has contributed immensely to improved communications to the public. Maggie oversaw the production of numerous educational publications informing the public of student and school achievements and contributed her time, energy, and outstanding organizational skills to numerous professional and community organizations in the cities of Corona and Norco and the County of Riverside in order to better inform residents of the high quality of education and academics in the community.

Maggie's tireless passion for education has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Corona, California. Maggie has demonstrated her willingness to work hard for quality education and I am proud to call her a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many children, parents, fellow teachers and administrators are grateful for her service and salute her as she retires.

**IN RECOGNITION OF DON
WILLIAMS**

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Don Williams for his dedi-

cated service to the Fort Knox CORE Committee.

While Don will continue to serve on the committee, today is his last meeting as Executive Director, a position he has held with the CORE Committee for the past 7 years. Under Don's leadership, the CORE Committee has become a strong advocate for Fort Knox with local, State and Federal Government leaders. Don has been an excellent partner with our Congressional delegation, helping us to better understand Fort Knox's needs and enhancing communication between the delegation and Fort Knox leaders.

Fort Knox is an asset to the Army and to the Second District of Kentucky. Don Williams understands Fort Knox's mission, and he has been an asset to Fort Knox and the Hardin County community's efforts to promote and protect the base.

This is not Don's first retirement. In 1990, he retired from the Army after 28 years of service, including assignments as Secretary to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the Pentagon and as Chief of Staff at Fort Knox.

While Don is stepping down as Executive Director, he will continue to be involved in the CORE Committee, as well as the Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs, Fort Knox's chapter of the AUSA, the Patton Museum and the Executive Committee of the Armor and Cavalry Affairs. All of these organizations benefit from Don's knowledge and experience with the Army and his commitment to Fort Knox's role in the Army and in the local community.

I have enjoyed working with Don over the past 7 years. He has helped me better represent the Fort Knox community in Congress. Thank you, Don, for your service to the CORE Committee and your dedication to Fort Knox and the Army.

**IGNORANCE OF ARABIC IS NOT
BLISS**

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker. Among the sillier policies that are pursued because some people do not like gay men and lesbians is the one which refuses to allow gay and lesbian Americans to serve their country in the armed forces. This is in great contrast to, to take a particularly striking example, Israel, which has openly gay and lesbian people in the Israeli Defense Force. Those who argue that the presence of openly gay and lesbian soldiers erodes morale have a very hard time explaining the example of the IDF.

In our own country, this self-inflicted mood reached new depths recently when the military began expelling from its ranks people who were becoming expert in Arabic and other languages, which are relevant to our fight against terrorism. From "don't ask, don't tell" we have proceeded to "don't ask, don't tell, don't translate," and our national interest is a loser. We already have too few people skilled in translating many of the languages that are used by terrorists, and we detract from our own security by turning away those who would help us overcome this deficiency.

Recently, the Linguistic Society of America founded in 1924 "for the advancement of the